

1847.

LAWS OF MARYLAND.

CHAP. 206. order to pass to and from said bridge, should a departure from the bed of the old road become necessary, by reason of fixing on some other situation than where the present public road crosses said creek.

May contract. SEC. 3. *And be it enacted*, That the said levy court be and they are hereby authorised to contract with any person or persons to build said bridge, and are required to take bond or bonds, with sufficient security, from any contractor or contractors, for the faithful performance of the contract.

CHAPTER 206.

Passed March 7, 1848. *An act to authorise Jane Lee, of Washington County, to hold, possess and dispose of a certain tract of land.*

Preamble.

WHEREAS, it hath been made to appear to this General Assembly of Maryland, that a certain Jane Lee, a colored woman, was, on or about the year eighteen hundred and twenty-three, manumitted and set free by a certain Henry Boteler, of Washington county, and that subsequently, in the year eighteen hundred and twenty-nine, she purchased a small tract of land in said county, the deed for which was duly executed and recorded in the land records of said county, and that said Jane has since lost her deed of manumission, which had not been recorded, and that the heirs at law of said Henry Boteler, now deceased, have, up to the present time, recognised and acknowledged her freedom, but in consequence of her advanced age, are by law prohibited from granting new manumission papers; and whereas, said Jane cannot legally hold and dispose of real estate, in consequence of the loss of said freedom papers.

Empowered to hold real estate. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Jane Lee, a colored woman, of Washington county, be and she is hereby authorised and empowered to hold, possess and dispose of a certain tract of land in said county, containing two and three-quarter acres, as set forth and described in a deed made to her by a certain Jacob Norris, and duly recorded in the land records of Washington county, in liber L. L., folios two hundred and three and four, in as full and ample a manner as she could have done if she was in possession